

Serial No. 10/629,746  
Group Art Unit: 3637  
Amdt. Dated: December 29, 2008  
Reply to Office Action of June 25, 2008

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**DEC 29 2008**

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**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Canceled).
2. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in claim ~~[[1]]~~ 144 wherein said second portion of said reinforcement unit comprises a reinforcement member interconnected to said third portion mounted in a position such that said reinforcement member has a portion positioned above said upper surface of said panel member.
3. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in claim 2 wherein ~~said panel member has a pair of opposed, transversely spaced, longitudinally extending side edges, extending between a transversely extending rear edge and a transversely extending front edge~~ and said system comprises a plurality of reinforcement units each of said plurality of reinforcement units being generally transversely oriented and longitudinally spaced.
4. (Canceled).
5. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in claim ~~[[3]]~~ 2 wherein ~~each of said plurality of reinforcement units~~ said first portion of said reinforcement unit of each of said plurality of reinforcement units comprises a connector and said third portion of said reinforcement unit comprises at least one vertical rod secured to said second portion reinforcement member and said connector, each said vertical rod also being secured to said panel member with ~~[[a]]~~ said connector, and wherein said connector reinforces said panel member and provides support to said form panel unit with said upwardly directed surface reinforcing said panel member.

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6. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in claim ~~[[1]]~~ 91 wherein said at least one structural supporting member comprises first and second spaced structural supporting members and said system further comprises a plurality of generally ~~longitudinal,~~ longitudinally spaced and generally transversely oriented reinforcement units, each ~~and wherein each said reinforcement unit of said plurality of reinforcement units having supports said form panel unit between first and second spaced structural supporting members. each said second portion of each said reinforcement unit of said plurality of reinforcement units comprises a first end~~ [[a]] portion mounted on one of said first and second structural supporting members~~[[,]]~~ and a second end portion mounted on the other of said first and second structural supporting members, whereby said panel member form panel unit can be supported by said ~~pair of first and second structural~~ supporting members with said plurality of reinforcement units.
7. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in claim ~~[[6]]~~ 5 wherein ~~said second portion of each of said plurality of reinforcement units each comprises a plurality of reinforcement members; said third portions of each of said plurality of reinforcement units each comprises a plurality of vertical rods; each said vertical rod secured to~~ [[a]] ~~at least one of said reinforcement member, members said vertical rods also being secured to said panel member, said vertical rods passing from said upper surface of said panel member toward said lower surface of said panel member and engaging a connector which provides said upwardly directed surface that assists in supporting said panel member~~ form panel unit when construction material in said unhardened state is retained above said panel member.
8. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in claim ~~[[4]]~~ 7 wherein said ~~reinforcement member of each of said plurality of reinforcement units has a first and second extension portion; of said reinforcement member of said reinforcement unit is a first end extension portion, and said reinforcement member has a second end extension portion opposite to said first end extension portion, said second extension portion being opposite to said first extension portion~~ one of said first and second end extension portions supported on one of said first and second structural supporting

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members, and the other of said first and second end extension portions supported on the other of said first and second structural supporting members, and wherein panel member said form panel unit is suspended from said upwardly directed surface of said first and second structural supporting members and between said first and second structural supporting members, and wherein each of said first and second structural supporting members has an upper portion extending above said upper surface of said panel member so as to be embedded in said construction material when said construction material is in said hardened state.

9. (Canceled).

10. (Canceled).

11. (Canceled).

12. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in claim [[6]] 8 wherein each said upper portion of said first and second structural supporting members ~~comprises a generally C-shaped channel member is embedded in said construction material and generally configured as an upstanding elongated web portion linked with a horizontal flange~~ each having ~~[[an]] upper and lower transverse oriented surface; surfaces and longitudinally oriented vertical surfaces embedded in said construction material when said construction material is in said hardened state and wherein said reinforcement member has a first end portion, and a second end portion opposite to said first end portion, said first and second portions each supported in part by a transverse surface of one of said first and second supporting members.~~

13. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in claim 12 wherein said reinforcement member has a first end portion, and a second end portion opposite to said first end portion, said first and second portions are each supported in part by a transverse surface of one of said first and second structural supporting members and said first and second end portions of said reinforcement member extend over each of said

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respective first and second structural supporting members; said vertical rods of each reinforcement unit having an upper portion located above said upper surface of said panel member; said upper portion and said first and second end portions configured to allow suspension of said form panel unit such that said upper surface of said panel member is positioned lower than said lower transverse surface of said horizontal flange of said upper portion of said structural supporting member.

14. (Canceled).
15. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in claim [[1]] 144 wherein said panel member is made at least in part from a foam plastic having at least one laminated outer surface laminated with a plastic skin.
16. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in claim [[1]] 144 wherein said foam plastic is a foam polystyrene.
17. (Canceled).
18. (Canceled).
19. (Canceled).
20. (Canceled).
21. (Canceled).
22. (Canceled).
23. (Canceled).
24. (Canceled).

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25. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in claim ~~[[1]]~~ 144 wherein said construction material comprises concrete.
26. (Canceled).
27. (Canceled).
28. (Canceled).
29. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in claim ~~[[1]]~~ 145 wherein said ~~portion of said first and second support portions of said second portion of said reinforcement unit~~ [[is]] are supported directly upon a surface upwardly directed surfaces of respectively said at least one first and second structural supporting member members.
30. (Canceled).
31. (Canceled).
32. (Canceled).
33. (Canceled).
34. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in claim 16 wherein said ~~upper and lower surfaces are laminated~~ panel member is made from foam polystyrene is provided with a strength enhancing skin providing a greater flexural strength to said panel member.
35. (Original) A system as claimed in claim 34 wherein said skin is made from polypropylene or polyethylene.
36. (Canceled).

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- 37. (Canceled).
- 38. (Canceled).
- 39. (Canceled).
- 40. (Canceled).
- 41. (Canceled).
- 42. (Canceled).
- 43. (Canceled).
- 44. (Canceled).
- 45. (Canceled).
- 46. (Canceled).
- 47. (Canceled).
- 48. (Canceled).
- 49. (Canceled).
- 50. (Canceled).
- 51. (Canceled).
- 52. (Canceled).

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- 53. (Canceled).
- 54. (Canceled).
- 55. (Canceled).
- 56. (Canceled).
- 57. (Canceled).
- 58. (Canceled).
- 59. (Canceled).
- 60. (Canceled).
- 61. (Canceled).
- 62. (Canceled).
- 63. (Canceled).
- 64. (Canceled).
- 65. (Canceled).
- 66. (Canceled).
- 67. (Canceled).
- 68. (Canceled).

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69. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in claim 72 wherein said ~~at least one first and second supporting member~~ members each comprises ~~[[a]] an elongated~~ structural ~~elongated~~ support member generally configured in an L-shape or U-shape. said structural support members for use in supporting said panel unit, each said support member having an upstanding web having an upper elongated web portion, said upper web portion having a plurality of spaced apertures disposed along said elongated upper web portion and being positioned so that hardened construction material will be received through said apertures to embed said first and second supporting members in said slab.
70. (Canceled).
71. (Canceled).
72. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in claim 2 wherein said portion ~~of said reinforcement member of said reinforcement unit~~ positioned above said upper surface of said panel member is spaced apart from said upper surface of said panel member to reinforce said floor or roof slab when said construction material in a hardened state.
73. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in claim ~~[[1]]~~ 144 wherein said reinforcement unit comprises ~~first and second members~~ a fourth portion configured as a rod secured to said third portion between said second portion and said upper surface of said panel member and said panel member is compressed between said first and ~~second members~~ said fourth portions of said reinforcement unit.
74. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in claim 3 wherein each of said plurality of reinforcement units comprises ~~first and second members~~ a fourth portion configured as a rod secured to said third portion between said second portion and said upper surface of said panel member and panel member is compressed between ~~each of said first and second members~~ said first and said fourth portion of said reinforcement unit.



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75. (Currently Amended) A formwork system for retaining load from a construction material having both unhardened and hardened states during fabricating a floor or roof from a construction material having both unhardened and hardened states slab, said system having a plurality of components comprising:

a) a plurality of form panel units, each form panel unit comprising:

i. a panel member made from a foam plastic and adapted for use as part of a form, to retain above, and support [[a]] said load associated with[[,]] said construction material when in an unhardened state, said panel member having generally opposed upper and lower surfaces and opposed side surfaces: said upper, lower and side surfaces configured for abutment with other of said components of said formwork system;

ii. at least one reinforcement unit having one or more components all of which contribute only to supporting said form panel unit and no other form panel units of said plurality of form panel units, said at least one reinforcement unit having at least one strengthening member for strengthening said panel member, said at least one member being oriented generally in a first direction;

~~said panel member and form panel unit with~~ said at least one reinforcement unit being capable of supporting said construction material above said panel member when in an unhardened state;

b) at least one structural supporting member oriented in a second direction that is generally perpendicular to said first direction;

~~said form panel unit being configured such that said panel member can be~~ being supported at least partially by said at least one structural supporting member, such that said unhardened construction material can be retained and supported above upper surface of said panel member to permit hardening of said construction material from

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said unhardened state to said hardened state, wherein at least a part of said load ~~associated with said panel member~~ on said form panel unit is transferred to said ~~reinforcement~~ strengthening member and wherein the ~~reinforcement~~ strengthening member in turns transfers at least part of ~~[[the]]~~ said load transversely to said at least one supporting member, such that said ~~panel member~~ form panel unit is at least in part supported by said at least one structural supporting member.

76. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 75 wherein said strengthening member is mounted in a position such that said strengthening member has a portion positioned above said upper surface of said panel member.
77. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in claim 75 wherein said strengthening member is positioned and spaced from said upper surface of said panel member such that said strengthening member reinforces said floor or roof slab when said construction material is in said hardened state.
78. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in claim 75 wherein said system comprises a plurality of reinforcement units each being generally transversely oriented and longitudinally spaced from each other and said plurality of reinforcement units being supported at least in part by said at least one structural supporting member such that said ~~panel member~~ form panel unit is at least in part supported by said at least one structural supporting member.
79. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in claim 76 wherein at least one structural supporting member comprises first and second structural support members both oriented generally in said second direction that is generally orthogonal to said first direction, and both said first and second structural supporting members being adapted for assisting in supporting said form panel unit when fabricating said floor or roof from said construction material in said unhardened state and wherein each of said plurality of reinforcement members is supported at least in part by both of said first and second structural supporting members such that said ~~panel member~~ form panel

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unit is at least in part supported by said first and second structural supporting members.

80. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 76 wherein said panel member is made at least in part from a foam plastic.
81. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 80 wherein said foam plastic is a foamed polystyrene.
82. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in claim 80 wherein said ~~upper and lower surfaces~~ said panel member made from foam polystyrene is provided ~~are laminated~~ with a ~~strength enhancing skin~~ providing for greater flexural strength to said panel member.
83. (Original) A system as claimed in claim 82 wherein said skin is made from polypropylene or polyethylene.
84. (Canceled).
85. (Canceled).
86. (Canceled).
87. (Canceled).
88. (Canceled).
89. (Canceled).
90. (Canceled).

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91. (Currently Amended) A formwork assembly for fabricating a ~~composite~~ floor or roof ~~slab~~ from a construction material, said construction material having both hardened and unhardened states, said assembly having a plurality of components comprising:

a) a panel unit comprising:

i. a panel member made from a foam plastic; said panel member having opposed upper and lower surfaces, opposed transversely spaced side surfaces and opposed longitudinally spaced front and rear surfaces; said panel member having at least one surface configured for abutment with at least one other of said components of said assembly;

ii. at least one panel reinforcement unit having at least one transversely oriented panel support member integrated with said panel member for reinforcing said panel member ~~at one or more locations across a span of said panel member~~ panel unit, said panel support member having at least a portion that is embedded and extends within said panel member between proximate an upper surface of said panel member to proximate a lower surface of said panel member to reinforce said panel member;

said panel member ~~unit~~ and said at least one reinforcement unit being capable of supporting said construction material above said panel member when in an unhardened state;

b) at least one structural support member having interconnected longitudinally oriented upper and lower portions, said at least one structural support member adapted to support at least in part said panel unit during said fabrication of said floor or roof ~~slab~~ when said construction material is in an unhardened state;

~~said panel member and~~ said unhardened construction material positioned above said panel unit being supported at least in part by said ~~transversely~~ transversely oriented panel support member, said transversely oriented panel support member being

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supported at least in part on said at least one structural supporting member, said construction material enveloping at least an upper portion of said at least one structural supporting member when said construction material is in said hardened state.

92. (Currently Amended) An assembly as claimed in claim 91 wherein said panel support member is also adapted to reinforce the concrete floor or roof slab and being enveloped by said construction material when said construction material is in said hardened state.
93. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in claim 7 further comprising each said reinforcement unit having a spacer member interconnected to said third portion and said second portion of said reinforcement unit and positioned above said upper surface of said panel member, whereby said panel member is compressed between each said connector and said spacer member.
94. (Currently Amended) An assembly as claimed in claim ~~[[55]]~~ 99 wherein said reinforcement member is also positioned to be enveloped by said construction material when said construction material is in said hardened state.
95. (Canceled).
96. (Canceled).
97. (Canceled).
98. (Canceled).
99. (Currently Amended) A formwork system for ~~constructing~~ retaining load from a construction material having both unhardened and hardened states during fabrication of a one-way ~~[[a]]~~ ribbed composite floor or roof comprising a ~~one-way~~ slab

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fabricated from a construction material having both unhardened and hardened states  
[[.]] with embedded one-way rib members and said floor or roof having a plurality of  
rib members, said system having a plurality of components comprising:

a) a form panel unit comprising:

i. a panel member made from a foam plastic and being adapted for use as part of a form to retain said construction material when in an unhardened state, said panel member having generally opposed upper and lower surfaces, said upper surface providing in part the profile of said slab, and said panel member having first and second opposed, longitudinally extending side edges, extending between a transversely extending front edge and a spaced transversely extending rear edge; one or more of said upper and lower surfaces, said side edges, said front and rear edges being configured for abutment to other of said components of said formwork system;

ii. at least one reinforcement unit having one or more components all of which contribute to supporting said form panel unit, said at least one reinforcement unit having at least one transversely oriented reinforcement member for reinforcing said panel member and interconnected to said panel member; said reinforcement member [[is]] being adapted for reinforcing said panel member and supporting said form panel unit at least one intermediate position that is transversely and longitudinally between and distant from said side edges and said front and rear edges of said panel member;

said panel member form panel unit and said at least one reinforcement unit being capable of supporting said construction material above said panel member when in an unhardened state;

b) at least one rib member and having interconnected longitudinally oriented upper and lower portions; said rib member oriented generally longitudinally and configured to reinforce said slab of said composite floor or roof made with said construction

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material in said hardened state, and to assist in supporting said form panel unit when fabricating slab of said composite floor or roof with said construction material in said unhardened state;

said form panel unit being configured such that said ~~panel member~~ form panel unit can be supported at least partially by said at least one rib member, such that said unhardened construction material can be retained above upper surface of said panel member to permit hardening of said construction material from said unhardened state to said hardened state, said reinforcement member oriented generally transversely to said at least one structural supporting member ~~[[and]]~~ such that said load from said unhardened construction material can be carried transversely by said reinforcement unit from said at least one intermediate position, said reinforcement unit also having a portion being mounted on said at least one rib member such that said panel member form panel unit is at least in part supported by said at least one rib member.

100. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in claim 99 wherein said at least one transversely oriented reinforcement member supports said form panel unit by suspending said panel member from said upper surface of said at least one rib member.
101. (Canceled).
102. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 99 wherein said upper surface of said panel member has at least one longitudinally oriented downwardly extending portion.
103. (Canceled).
104. (Previously Presented) An assembly as claimed in claim 91 wherein said panel member is made from a foam plastic having at least one or said upper or lower surfaces laminated with a strength enhancing skin.

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105. (Previously Presented) An assembly as claimed in claim 104 wherein said foam plastic is a foam polystyrene.
106. (Canceled).
107. (Currently Amended) An assembly as claimed in claim [[106]] 91 wherein said foam plastic is a foam polystyrene.
108. (Canceled).
109. (Canceled).
110. (Canceled).
111. (Canceled).
112. (Canceled).
113. (Canceled).
114. (Currently Amended) An assembly as claimed in claim [[91]] 92 wherein said at least at least one structural support member has a pair of webs configured in a generally L or U-shaped configuration, each web having an upper elongated web portion, said upper web portions having a plurality of spaced apertures disposed along said elongated upper web portion, and being positioned so that construction material will be received through said apertures to anchor said at least one structural supporting member is said construction material.
115. (Currently Amended) An assembly as claimed in claim [[91]] 92 wherein said at least at least one structural ~~support~~ supporting member has an elongated ~~web having a~~



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~~plurality of spaced apertures disposed along said web, and said web being positioned so that construction material may be received through said apertures to anchor said at least one structural supporting member is said construction material~~ upper portion interconnected with an elongated web portion, said upper portion embedded in said construction material and being generally configured as an upstanding elongated web portion linked with a horizontal flange, said flange having have upper and lower transverse oriented surfaces and longitudinally oriented vertical surfaces embedded in said construction material in said hardened state.

116. (Canceled).

117. (Canceled).

118. (Canceled).

119. (Canceled).

120. (Canceled).

121. (Canceled).

122. (Currently Amended) A formwork assembly as claimed in claim ~~[[55]]~~ 144, wherein said second portion of said reinforcement unit comprises a rebar member.

123. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 15 wherein said laminated outer surface is arranged to contact said construction material.

124. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in claim ~~[[15]]~~ 91 wherein said panel member has both an upper laminated surface and a lower laminated surface strengthening said panel member.

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125. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 15 wherein said laminated surface is a polypropylene laminated surface.
126. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in claim ~~[[15]]~~ 124 wherein said upper and lower laminated surface surfaces are ~~is a~~ polyethylene laminated ~~surface~~ surfaces.
127. (Canceled).
128. (Currently Amended) A formwork system for use in fabricating a slab from a construction material having both unhardened and hardened states, said formwork system comprising:
- (a) a form panel unit comprising:
- i. a panel member made from a foam plastic material and having upper and lower surfaces, said upper surface having a shape providing a negative for at least a part of a shape of said slab, said panel member being adapted to be used as part of a form to retain said construction material above said upper surface in an unhardened state, ~~the shape of said upper surface of said panel member defining at least in part the shape of said slab when said construction material in said hardened shape;~~
- ii. at least one, generally transversely oriented reinforcement unit, ~~each~~ said reinforcement unit for reinforcing said panel member and having at least one panel support member having a portion for engagement with a structural supporting member oriented generally transverse to said panel support member;

said reinforcement unit further comprising a reinforcing portion embedded in said panel member and extending from proximate said upper surface of said panel member

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to proximate said lower surface of said panel member to reinforce said panel member;

said panel member and said at least one form panel unit with said reinforcement unit  
being capable of supporting said construction material above said panel member when  
in an unhardened state;

(b) [[a]] at least one structural supporting member;

said panel support member having a portion for engagement with said at least one  
structural supporting member oriented generally transverse to said panel support  
member;

said panel member form panel unit being supported at least in part on said structural  
supporting member by said panel support member of said reinforcement unit oriented  
generally transversely to said structural supporting member, such that said  
unhardened construction material can be retained above said panel member and be  
supported at least in part by said panel member form panel unit;

and wherein said reinforcement unit comprises at least one connecting member that  
extends from proximate said upper surface of said panel member toward said lower  
surface of said panel member and engages said reinforcing portion of said  
reinforcement unit which assists in supporting said form panel unit when unhardened  
construction material is retained above said panel member. said at least one  
connecting member being interconnected to said at least one panel member;

and wherein said reinforcement unit comprises an upper compression member  
positioned above said upper surface of said panel member, whereby said panel  
member is compressed between said connecting member and said upper compression  
member.

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129. (Canceled).
130. (Cancelled).
131. (Previously Presented) A formwork system as claimed in claim 128 wherein said foam plastic is a foam polystyrene.
132. (Previously Presented) A formwork system as claimed in claim 128 wherein said upper and lower surfaces are laminated with a strength enhancing skin.
133. (Previously Presented) A formwork system as claimed in claim 132 wherein said skin is made from polypropylene or polyethylene.
134. (Currently Amended) A formwork system for use in fabricating a structural one-way ribbed reinforced floor slab from a construction material having both unhardened and hardened states, said formwork system having a plurality of components comprising:
- (a) a form panel unit comprising:
- i. a panel member made from a foam plastic and having an upper surface, a lower surface, opposed longitudinal side surfaces and opposed transverse front and rear side surfaces; said surfaces being configured for abutment with at least one other of said components of said formwork system; said panel member being adapted to be used as part of a form to retain said construction material in an unhardened state, said panel member having a longitudinally oriented depression in said upper surface;
  - ii. at least one transversely oriented reinforcement unit for reinforcing said panel member, said at least one reinforcement unit having one or more components all of which contribute only to supporting said form panel unit, said at least one reinforcement unit ~~[[and]]~~ having at least one panel support member ~~having a portion for engagement with a structural supporting~~

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~~member oriented generally transverse to said support member and oriented generally transverse to the general orientation of said depression of said upper surface of said panel member;~~ said reinforcement unit further comprising a portion extending from proximate said upper surface of said panel member to proximate said lower surface of said panel member;

(b) a structural supporting member;

said panel support member of said reinforcement unit having a portion for engagement with a structural supporting member oriented generally transverse to said support member and oriented generally transverse to the general orientation of said depression of said upper surface of said panel member;

said panel unit being configured such that said ~~panel member~~ form panel unit may be supported on at least one structural supporting member by said at least one panel support member, such that said unhardened construction material can be retained above said upper surface of said ~~panel member~~ and can be supported at least in part by said ~~panel member~~ form panel unit;

and wherein said surfaces of said panel member of said form panel unit are configured so as to be capable of mounting said form panel unit on said structural supporting member by vertical movement downwards of said form panel unit relative to said structural supporting member.

135. (Previously Presented) A formwork system as claimed in claim 134 wherein said depression is a generally downwardly angled portion located at a longitudinal side edge of said upper surface.

136. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in claim ~~[[136]]~~ 135 wherein said downwardly angled portion is oriented generally orthogonal to said generally transversely oriented reinforcement units.

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137. (Canceled).

138. (Canceled).

139. (Canceled).

140. (Canceled).

141. (Canceled).

142. (Canceled).

143. (New) A formwork system as claimed in claim 134 wherein said reinforcing portion comprises a connecting member at least partly positioned within the panel member and extending between the upper and lower surfaces of said panel member, and wherein said reinforcement unit also comprises a connector having a cap portion providing a surface which assists in supporting said form panel unit proximate said lower surface of said panel member.

144. (New) A formwork system for retaining load from a construction material having both unhardened and hardened states during fabrication of a floor or roof slab from said construction material, said system having components comprising:

a) a form panel unit comprising:

i. a panel member made from a foam plastic and adapted for use as part of said formwork system to retain said construction material when in an unhardened state, said panel member having an upper surface and a lower surface, said upper surface defining a shape of the lower surface of said slab, and said panel member having first and second opposed, transversely spaced, longitudinally extending side edges, said

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first and second side edges generally extending between a transversely extending front edge and a spaced transversely extending rear edge; said upper surface and said lower surface, said side edges, said front and rear edges of said panel member being configured for abutment with other components of said formwork system;

ii. at least one reinforcement unit being oriented transversely to said side edges of said panel member and longitudinally spaced from said front and rear edges; said reinforcement unit comprising a first portion and a second portion rigidly interconnected by means of a third portion; said reinforcement unit being interconnected to said panel member such that said form panel unit comprises a rigid structure, said reinforcement unit contributing to internal reinforcing said panel member of said form panel unit and supporting said form panel unit, said first portion of said reinforcement unit adapted for reinforcing said panel member at an intermediate position that is transversely and longitudinally located between and distant from said side edges and said front and rear edges respectively of said panel member; said first portion comprising a rigidly interconnected generally oriented vertical section and a generally oriented horizontal section; said generally oriented horizontal section of said first portion of said reinforcement unit comprising a generally horizontally, longitudinally and transversely extending and upwardly directed surface that supports said form panel unit at proximate said lower surface of said panel member;

said second portion of said reinforcement unit adapted for supporting said form panel unit during fabrication of said floor or roof slab made from said construction material;

said form panel unit being capable of supporting said construction material above said panel member when in an unhardened state;

b) first and second spaced structural supporting members oriented generally longitudinally and adapted for assisting in supporting said form panel unit when

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fabricating said floor or roof slab with said construction material in said unhardened state;

said panel member being configured such that said form panel unit can be supported by said reinforcement unit at least partially by said first and second structural supporting members, such that said unhardened construction material can be retained above said upper surface of said panel member to permit hardening of said construction material from said unhardened state to said hardened state, said reinforcement unit oriented generally transversely to said first and second structural supporting members such that said load to said panel member can be carried by said first portion of said reinforcement unit from said intermediate position and transferred to said second portion of said reinforcement unit, said second portion transfers said load to said first and second structural members carrying said load, said second portion of said reinforcement unit having first and second opposed support portions, said first and second support portions being mounted respectively on upwardly directed surfaces of said first and second structural supporting members such that said form panel unit is at least in part supported by said first and second structural supporting members.

145. (New) A system as claimed in claim 144 wherein said first and second support portions of said second portion of said reinforcement unit each comprises a lower surface for supporting said form panel unit during fabrication of said floor or roof slab made from said construction material, said lower surfaces of said first and second support portions of each said second portion of said reinforcement unit being visible when said form panel unit is viewed upwardly from the bottom of said lower surface of said panel member.

146. (New) A system as claimed in claim 144 wherein said third portion comprises a rod having a shape which provides rigidity to said panel member; said rod secured to said panel member and said first portion comprises a connector, and wherein said first and said third portion provides reinforcement to said panel member.



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147. (New) A system as claimed in claim 144 wherein said second portion of said reinforcement unit is positioned above and spaced from said upper surface of said panel member.
148. (New) A formwork assembly for retaining load from a construction material having both unhardened and hardened states during fabricating a slab, said assembly having a plurality of components comprising:
- a) a form panel unit generally positioned between first and second respectively opposed vertical surfaces of first and second longitudinally oriented and transversely spaced structural support members; said form panel unit comprising:

i. a panel member made from a foam plastic and having upper and lower surfaces, said panel member being adapted to be used as part of said formwork assembly to retain said construction material above said upper surface when in an unhardened state;

said upper surface defining a shape of the lower surface of said slab, said panel member having first and second opposed, transversely spaced, longitudinally extending side edges, said first and second side edges generally extending between a transversely extending front edge and a spaced transversely extending rear edge; said first side edge configured for abutment with said vertical surface of said first structural supporting member, said second side edge configured for abutment with said vertical surface of said second structural supporting member; said lower surface, said upper surface, said longitudinally extending side edges, said front and rear edges configured for abutment to other of said components of said formwork assembly;

ii. at least one reinforcement unit comprising a first portion and a second portion rigidly interconnected by means of a third portion; said reinforcement unit being generally oriented transversely, said reinforcement unit being integrated with said panel member to only support said form panel unit and reinforce said panel member at an intermediate position that is transversely and longitudinally located

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between and distant from said side edges and said front and rear edges of said panel member; said reinforcement unit being integrated with said panel member such that said form panel unit comprises a rigid structure; said first portion adapted for reinforcing said panel member and supporting said form panel unit at said intermediate position; said first portion of said reinforcement unit comprising a rigidly interconnected generally oriented vertical section and a generally oriented horizontal section; said generally oriented horizontal section of said first portion of said reinforcement unit comprising a generally horizontally, longitudinally and transversely extending and upwardly directed surface that supports said panel member at proximate said lower surface of said panel member;

said second portion of said reinforcement unit having first and second sections for supporting said form panel unit during fabrication of said slab; said first and second sections each having lower surfaces directed downwardly for mounting said second portion of said reinforcement unit on said first and second structural supporting members;

said panel member and said reinforcement unit being capable of supporting said construction material above said panel member when in an unhardened state;

b) said first and second structural support members located proximate said side edges of said panel member and adapted for assisting in supporting said form panel unit during fabrication of said slab with said construction material in said unhardened state;

said panel member being configured such that said form panel unit can be supported by said reinforcement unit at least partially by said first and second structural supporting members, such that said unhardened construction material can be retained above upper surface of said panel member to permit hardening of said construction material from said unhardened state to said hardened state, said reinforcement unit oriented generally transversely to said first and second structural supporting members

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such that said load on said panel member is supported by said first portion of said reinforcement unit and from said intermediate position can be carried transversely by said reinforcement unit, said first section of said second portion of said reinforcement unit being mounted on a top portion of said first structural supporting member and said second section of said second portion of said reinforcement unit being mounted on a top portion of said second structural supporting member such that said form panel unit is at least in part supported by said first and second structural supporting members.

149. (New) A formwork assembly for retaining load from a construction material having both unhardened and hardened states during fabrication of a floor or roof slab from said construction material, said assembly having a plurality of components comprising:
- a) a form panel unit comprising:
    - i) a panel member made from a foam plastic and adapted for use as part of said formwork assembly, to retain above, and support said load associated with, said construction material when in an unhardened state, said panel member having opposed upper and lower surfaces; said upper surface defining a shape of the lower surface of said slab from said construction material when in an hardened state; said panel member having first and second opposed, transversely spaced, longitudinally extending side edges, said first and second side edges generally extending between a transversely extending front edge and a spaced transversely extending rear edge; said side edges, said upper and lower surfaces, said side edges, said front and rear edges configured for abutment with one or more other components of said formwork assembly;
    - ii) at least one reinforcement unit located transversely to said side edges of said panel member and longitudinally spaced from said front and rear edges, said reinforcement unit comprising a first portion and a second portion rigidly interconnected by a third portion; said reinforcement unit being interconnected

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to said panel member such that said form panel unit comprises a rigid structure; said reinforcement unit contributing to internal reinforcing of said panel member of said form panel unit and supporting said form panel unit;

said first portion adapted for reinforcing said panel member and supporting said form panel unit in at least three intermediate positions, each of said intermediate positions transversely located between and distant from said first side edge and said second side edge;

said first portion comprising at least three components, each of said components being spaced from one another and each component of said first portion comprising a generally vertically oriented section each rigidly interconnected to a respective generally oriented horizontal section;

each of said generally oriented horizontal sections of said first portion of said reinforcement unit comprising a generally horizontally, longitudinally and transversely extending and upwardly directed surface that supports said form panel unit at or proximate said lower surface of said panel member;

said second portion of said reinforcement unit adapted for supporting said form panel unit in at least two intermediate positions during fabrication of said floor or roof slab made from said construction material;

said second portion of said reinforcement unit oriented horizontally and located transversely to said side edges and located at or proximate said upper surface of said panel member;

said form panel unit being capable of supporting said construction material above said form panel unit when in an unhardened state;

b) first and second structural support members each having a top portion adapted to support at least in part said panel unit during said fabrication of said floor or roof slab when said construction material is in an unhardened state;

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said form panel unit being configured to be at least partially supported on said first and second structural supporting members by said reinforcement unit such that said unhardened construction material can be retained above upper surface of said panel member to permit hardening of said construction material from said unhardened state to said hardened state,

said reinforcement unit oriented generally transversely to said first and second structural supporting members, said second portion of said reinforcement unit having mounted sections positioned on said top of said first and second structural supporting members such that said load exerted on said panel member from unhardened construction material associated with fabricating said floor or roof slab can be carried by said first portion of said reinforcement unit from said intermediate positions and transferred to said second portion of said reinforcement unit, with said second portion transferring said load to said at least first and second structural supporting members;

and wherein said surfaces of said panel member of said form panel unit are configured so as to be capable of mounting said form panel unit on said top portion of said structural supporting members by vertical movement downwards of said form panel unit relative to said structural supporting members.

150. (New) A formwork assembly for retaining load from a construction material having both unhardened and hardened states during fabrication of a slab, said assembly comprising the following components:

a) at least one longitudinally oriented structural support member having a generally horizontal top surface and opposed generally vertically extending first and second surfaces;

b) a plurality of form panel units each form panel unit comprising:

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i. a panel member made from a foam plastic and having upper and lower surfaces, said panel member being adapted to be used as part of said formwork assembly to retain said construction material above said upper surface when in an unhardened state; said upper surface of said panel member defining a shape of the lower surface of said slab, said panel member having first and second opposed, transversely spaced, longitudinally extending side edges, said first and second side edges generally extending between a transversely extending front edge and a spaced transversely extending rear edge; said upper and lower surfaces, said side edges, said front and rear edges configured for abutment with one or more other components of said formwork assembly;

(ii) at least one reinforcement unit comprising a first portion and a second portion rigidly linked by a third portion; said reinforcement unit being generally oriented transversely, said reinforcement unit being integrated with said panel member to only support said form panel unit and reinforce said panel member at an intermediate position that are transversely and longitudinally located between and distant from said side edges and said front and rear edges of said panel member;

said first portion of said reinforcement unit adapted for reinforcing said panel member at said intermediate position and supporting said panel unit;

said second portion of said reinforcement unit having a first section for mounting said form panel unit and adapted for supporting said form panel unit during fabrication of said slab;

said reinforcement unit contributing to reinforcing only said panel member of said form panel unit and supporting said form panel unit only and no other form panel units in said system;

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each said form panel unit and said respective reinforcement unit of said plurality of form panel units being capable of supporting said construction material above said panel member when in an unhardened state;

and each said panel member being configured such that each said form panel unit can be supported by said reinforcement unit at least partially by said at least one structural supporting member, such that said unhardened construction material can be retained above upper surface of said panel members to permit hardening of said construction material from said unhardened state to said hardened state, said reinforcement unit oriented generally transversely to said at least one structural supporting members such that said load can be carried transversely by said reinforcement unit from said intermediate position, said first section of said second portion of said reinforcement unit being mounted on top of said at least one structural supporting member such that said form panel unit is at least in part supported by said at least one structural supporting member.

151. (New) A formwork assembly for retaining load from a construction material having both unhardened and hardened states during fabricating of a slab from said construction material, said formwork assembly comprising:

a) first and second spaced and longitudinally oriented structural support members each having a top portion;

b) a form panel unit comprising:

i. a panel member made from a foam plastic and having upper and lower surfaces, said panel member being adapted to be used as part of a form to retain said construction material above said upper surface when in an unhardened state; said upper surface of said panel member defining a shape of the lower surface of said slab, said panel member having first and second opposed, transversely spaced, longitudinally extending side edges, said first and second side edges generally

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extending between a transversely extending front edge and a spaced transversely extending rear edge;

(ii) at least one reinforcement unit comprising a first portion and a second portion rigidly linked by a third portion; said reinforcement unit being generally oriented transversely, said reinforcement unit being integrated with said panel member to only support said form panel unit and reinforce said panel member at an intermediate position that is transversely and longitudinally located between and distant from said side edges and said front and rear edges of said panel member;

said first portion of said reinforcement unit adapted for supporting and reinforcing said panel member at said intermediate position;

said second portion of said reinforcement unit having first and second opposite sections for supporting said form panel unit during fabrication of said slab; said first and second opposite sections located above said upper surface of said panel member; said third portion of said reinforcement unit having a section located above said upper surface of said panel member;

said form panel unit being capable of supporting said construction material above said panel member when in an unhardened state;

and said panel member being configured such that said form panel unit can be supported by said reinforcement unit at least partially by said first and second structural supporting members, such that said unhardened construction material can be retained above upper surface of said panel member to permit hardening of said construction material from said unhardened state to said hardened state, said reinforcement unit oriented generally transversely to said first and second structural supporting members such that said load can be carried transversely by said reinforcement unit from said intermediate position to said first and second structural supporting members.



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152. (New) A formwork assembly as claimed in claim 151 wherein said first and second opposed sections of said second portion and said part of said third portion located above said upper surface of said panel member configured to allow said form panel unit to be suspended below said top of said structural supporting members.
153. (New) A formwork system as claimed in claim 151 wherein first and second spaced and longitudinally oriented structural support members each have generally vertically extending surfaces facing each other and each of said vertically extending surfaces of said first and second structural supporting members is in abutment with one of said side edges of said panel member.
154. (New) A formwork system as claimed in claim 153 wherein each of said first and second structural support members having a generally horizontally extending upper flange, and wherein said first side edge of said panel member is configured for abutment with said vertically extending surface of said first structural support member beneath said horizontal flange of said first structural member, and said second side edge of said panel member is configured for abutment with said vertically extending surface of said second support member beneath said horizontal flange of said second structural member;
- and wherein said surfaces of said panel member of said form panel unit are configured so as to be capable of mounting said form panel unit on top of said structural supporting members by rotational movement of said form panel unit relative to said flange of one of said structural supporting members.
155. (New) A formwork assembly for retaining load from a construction material having both unhardened and hardened states during fabrication of a slab from said construction material, said formwork assembly comprising:
- a) first and second structural support member;

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b) a plurality of form panel units each form panel unit comprising:

i. a panel member made from a foam plastic and having upper and lower surfaces, said panel member being adapted to be used as part of said formwork assembly to retain said construction material above said upper surface when in an unhardened state; said upper surface of said panel member defining a shape of the lower surface of said slab; said panel member having first and second opposed, transversely spaced, longitudinally extending side edges, said first and second side edges generally extending between a transversely extending front edge and a spaced transversely extending rear edge; said panel member having a first longitudinally oriented and extending depression in said upper surface, said first depression generally angled downwards towards said lower surface and ending at said first side edge; said panel member also having; said panel member also having a second longitudinally oriented and extending depression in said upper surface located opposite to said first depression, said second depression generally angled downwards towards said lower surface and ending at said second side edge;

(ii) at least one reinforcement unit comprising a first portion and a second portion rigidly linked by a third portion; said reinforcement unit being generally oriented transversely, said reinforcement unit only supporting said form panel unit and no other panel unit of said plurality of form panels, and reinforcing said panel member at least three intermediate positions located transversely between said first and second depressions;

said first portion of said reinforcement unit adapted for supporting and reinforcing said panel member at said three intermediate positions;

said panel member by means of said reinforcement unit being capable of supporting said construction material above said panel member when in an unhardened state;

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each said panel member form panel unit being configured such that said form panel unit can be supported by said reinforcement unit at least partially by said first and second structural supporting members, such that said unhardened construction material can be retained above upper surface of said panel member to permit hardening of said construction material from said unhardened state to said hardened state, said reinforcement unit oriented generally transversely to said first and second structural supporting members such that said load can be carried transversely by said reinforcement unit from three intermediate positions;

said reinforcement unit contributing to reinforcing only said panel member of said form panel unit and supporting said form panel unit only and no said other form panel units of said plurality of said form panel units.

156. (New) A formwork assembly for retaining load from a construction material having both unhardened and hardened states during fabrication of a slab from said construction material, said formwork assembly comprising:

a) a first form panel unit and a second form panel unit, said first form panel unit being generally positioned between a first and second longitudinally oriented and transversely spaced structural support members, said second form panel unit being generally positioned between said second structural support member and a third longitudinally oriented and transversely spaced structural support member, each said structural support member having a top portion; said second structural supporting member located between said first and third structural supporting members and said first, second and third structural supporting members being transversely spaced; each of said first and second form panels unit comprising:

i. a panel member made from a foam plastic and having upper and lower surfaces, said panel member being adapted to be used as part of a form to retain said construction material above said upper surface when in an unhardened state; said upper surface defining a shape of the lower surface of said slab, said panel member

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having first and second opposed, transversely spaced, longitudinally extending side edges, said first and second side edges generally extending between a transversely extending front edge and a spaced transversely extending rear edge;

ii. at least one reinforcement unit comprising a first portion interconnected to a second portion; said reinforcement unit being generally oriented transversely;

said first portion of said reinforcement unit adapted for reinforcing said panel member and supporting said form panel unit in the proximity of at least one intermediate position located distant from said first and second side edges;

said second portion of said reinforcement unit having first and second opposed end sections for supporting said form panel unit during fabrication of said slab; said first and second opposed sections located above said upper surface of said panel member;

said first portion of said reinforcement unit having a section extending above upper surface of said panel member to said second portion;  
said form panel unit being capable of supporting said construction material above said panel member when said construction material is in an unhardened state;

said first transversely spaced structural support member oriented generally longitudinally and proximate said first side edge of said panel member of said first form panel unit;

said second transversely spaced structural support member oriented generally longitudinally between and proximate said second side edge of said panel member of said first form panel unit and proximate said first side edge of said panel member of said second form panel unit;

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said third transversely spaced structural support member oriented generally longitudinally and proximate said second side edge of said panel member of said second form panel unit;

said panel member of said first form panel unit being configured such that said first form panel unit can be supported by said reinforcement unit of said first form panel unit at least partially by said first and second structural supporting members, such that said unhardened construction material can be retained above upper surface of said panel member of said first form panel to permit hardening of said construction material from said unhardened state to said hardened state, said reinforcement unit of said first form panel unit is oriented generally transversely to said first and second structural supporting members such that said load to said panel member of said first form panel unit can be carried transversely by said reinforcement unit of said first form panel unit from said intermediate position of said panel member of said first form panel unit to said first and said second structural supporting members;

said panel member of said second form panel unit being configured such that said second form panel unit can be supported by said reinforcement unit of said second form panel unit at least partially by said second and third structural supporting members, such that said unhardened construction material can be retained above upper surface of said panel member of said second form panel to permit hardening of said construction material from said unhardened state to said hardened state, said reinforcement unit of said first form panel unit is oriented generally transversely to said second and third structural supporting members such that said load to said panel member of said second form panel unit can be carried transversely by said reinforcement unit of said second form panel unit from said intermediate position of said panel member of said second form panel unit to said second and said third structural supporting members;

said first section of said second portions of said reinforcement unit of said first form panel unit being mounted on said top of said first structural supporting member and

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said second section of said second portion of said reinforcement unit of said first form panel unit being mounted on top of said second structural supporting member such that said first form panel unit is at least in part supported by said first and second structural supporting members;

said first section of said second portions of said reinforcement unit of said second form panel unit being mounted on said top of said second structural supporting member and said second section of said second portion of said reinforcement unit of said second form panel unit being mounted on top of said third structural supporting member such that said second form panel unit is at least in part supported by said second and third structural supporting members;

said first section and said second sections of said second portions of said reinforcement unit of said first form panel unit and said extended part of said first portion of said reinforcement unit of said first form panel unit being configured of such a length such that during rotational installation of said first form panel unit on said first and second structural supporting members, neither said first nor second sections of said second portions contacts an upper surface of said panel member of said second form panel unit that is already installed on said second and third structural supporting members.

157. (New) A system as claimed in claim 158 wherein said first, second and third spaced structural support members each has at least one transversely extending flange, and wherein after rotational installation of said first form panel unit on said first and second structural supporting members, at least a portion of said panel member is positioned beneath said flange of one of said flange of said first structural support member.
158. (New) A formwork system for fabricating a floor or roof slab from a construction material having both unhardened and hardened states, said system comprising:

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a) a plurality of form panel units, each form panel unit comprising:

i. a panel member made from a foam plastic and being adapted for use as part of said form panel unit, to retain above said load;

ii. at least one reinforcement unit oriented generally transversely, said reinforcement unit reinforcing only said panel member of said form panel unit and no other panel members in any other form panel units of said plurality of form panel units; said at least one reinforcement unit also adapted for supporting said form panel unit during said fabrication of said slab;

b) first and second spaced structural supporting member oriented generally longitudinally and adapted for assisting in supporting said plurality of form panel units when fabricating said floor or roof slab with said construction material in said unhardened state;

each of said plurality of form panel units in said system being configured to be at least in part supported by said first and second structural supporting member with at least one reinforcement unit such that said unhardened construction material can be retained above upper surface of said panel member to permit hardening of said construction material from said unhardened state to said hardened state.

159. (New) A formwork assembly for fabricating a floor or roof slab from a construction material, said construction material having both hardened and unhardened states, said assembly comprising:

a) a panel unit comprising:

- i. a panel member made from a foam plastic;
- ii. at least one panel reinforcement unit having at least one panel support member integrated with said panel member for

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reinforcing said panel member of said panel unit, said panel support member having at least a portion that is embedded and extends within said panel member between proximate an upper surface of said panel member to proximate a lower surface of said panel member to reinforce said panel member;

said panel unit being capable of supporting said construction material above said panel member when in an unhardened state;

- b) at least one longitudinally oriented structural support member adapted to support at least in part said panel unit during said fabrication of said floor or roof slab when said construction material is in said unhardened state.